

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 SY-10 CU-04 OMB-01 NASA-04 M-03 A-01 OPR-02

RSR-01 /112 W

----- 054642

R 141300 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5309

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0644

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MA

SUBJ: MANANDAFY ARRESTED

BEGIN SUMMARY: EXTREME LEFTIST LEADER MANANDAFY ARRESTED
MAY 12, THUS DEMONSTRATING MALAGASY GOVT WILLINGNESS AND
ABILITY DEAL WITH CHALLENGES FROM LEFT, JUST AS PSD ARRESTS
HAVE SHOWN SIMILAR CAPACITY WITH RESPECT THREATS FROM RIGHT.
END SUMMARY.

1. MANANDAFY RAKOTONIRINA, LEADER OF EXTREME LEFTIST PARTY
MFM (MILITANTS FOR GOVT BY PROLETARIANS), AND SEVERAL COHORTS
ARRESTED MAY 12 IN TANANARIVE. ARRESTS RESULTED FROM CALL BY
MANANDAFY FOR MANIFESTATION MAY 13 (ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION
YEAR AGO UPSETTING TSIRANANA GOVT). DESPITE ORDER ISSUED BY
MALAGASY MINISTER INTERIOR MAY 12 FORBIDDING ALL DEMONSTRATIONS
THAT DAY.

2. FOLLOWING ARREST, MFM, ELEMENTS OF ZOAM (MALAGASY UNEMPLOYED
YOUTH) SUPPORTING MANANDAFY, ZMM (YOUNG MILITANT STUDENTS), AND
FMTZ (MILITANT ASSOCIATION FOR INTERESTS OF YOUTH) ISSUED TRACTS
DENOUNCING ARRESTS. ALSO TRIED ORGANIZE PROTEST MARCH MAY 13 BUT
IT WAS BROKEN UP BY POLICE BEFORE IT GOT STARTED.

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3. ASIDE FROM THIS ATTEMPT, MAY 13 PASSED QUIETLY THROUGHOUT MADAGASCAR, ACCORDING PRESS. TANANARIVE HEAVILY PATROLLED BY SECURITY FORCES, AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT OVERFLEW CITY THROUGHOUT DAY.

4. COMMENT: GOVT ORDER FORBIDDING DEMONSTRATIONS MAY 13 AND SUBSEQUENT ARREST MANSE. ISMA' IL VIRTUALLY BI- LINGUAL.

2) AHMED HASAN MIRZA (AKA AHMED HASAN AL- RAHMA) IS DIR OF MINISTER' S OFFICE. MIRZA IS ABU DHABI CITIZEN AND IS SAME AGE AS OTAIBA. DOUBT MINISTER WILL WANT MIRZA TO PARTICIPATE IN KEY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION S. BELIEVE BEST RULE OF THUMB IS INCLUDE HIM ON ALL COURTESY CALLS AND SOCIAL EVENTS, BUT NOT IN ANY OF CONFIDENTIAL TALKS. HOWEVER, SUGGEST THAT THESE GUIDELINES BE COORDINATED UPON ARRIVAL WITH OTAIBA. MIRZA SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH. 3) ISSAM A. KABRA --- WILL ACCOMPANY OFFICIAL PARTY ON TRIP TO U. S. AS REP OF PHILLIPS PET CO. OF ABU DHABI, WHICH FUNDING ALL OF TRAVEL AND MOST OF EXPENSES IN U. S. KABRA IS 30, BORN IN PALESTINE AND RAISED IN SYRIA. RESIDENT IN ABU DHABI SINCE 1963; HAS BEEN GOVT RELATIONS REP FOR PHILLIPS SINCE 1967. KABRA WAS INCLUDED AS ESCORT BECAUSE HE HAS NEVER VISITED U. S. AND DUE TO HIS CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH OTAIBA. IN VIEW POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST, PHILLIPS MGR HAS INSTRUCTED KABRA NOT RPT NOT TO ATTEND VARIOUS EVENTS ON TRIP SCHEDULE IN NEW YORK AND WASHDC UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INVITED. WE AGREE IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR KABRA TO ATTEND OFFICIAL TALKS BUT CONSIDERING EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EMBASSY AND PHILLIPS LOCAL REP, AND FACT PHILLIPS WILLING ABSORB COSTS OF PARTY' S WASHDC STOP- OVER, RECOMMEND KABRA BE INCLUDED IN ONE OR MORE COURTESY CALLS AND IN ANY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. KABRA SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH.
STOLTZFUS

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